

Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation Spring 2023 Newsletter



All,

Welcome to springtime in Vermont! While we will continue to have some cold days in the weeks ahead, we are ultimately moving toward warmth and sunshine. Similarly, our work at GBIC has been getting better and better - We have filled our months with exciting work on everything from numerous grant programs to impactful legislative advocacy and everything in-between. We are looking forward to what the future has to bring, and, above all, we cannot wait to share it with you.

Yours, The GBIC Team

Grant programs

Community Revitalization and Recovery Program (CRRP)

We at GBIC have been answering questions and writing letters of recommendation for numerous CRRP applicants all around Chittenden County. The program, which is still ongoing, offers funding for projects that spur economic recovery and revitalization in communities across the state. The first round of successful applicants has been announced, and applications are still being accepted and reviewed. More information can be found here.

In partnership with Efficiency Vermont: Enhanced Rebates for Commercial LED Lighting Projects

The RDCs of Vermont have collaborated with Efficiency Vermont to offer a new program featuring enhanced rebates for commercial LED lighting projects. This special program is designed to motivate and support Vermont businesses outside of the City of Burlington, especially small and midsize businesses, in upgrading to LED lighting in 2023. The program will cover 75% of equipment and installation costs up to a maximum rebate of \$10,000 or 100% of equipment costs for projects with 500 or more linear tube LEDs. Applications are open through April 30th or until the program funding is fully subscribed. Attached you will find a program summary and application form.

Documents:

Program Summary
Application Form

Green Mountain Job and Retention Program

The State of Vermont, in collaboration with the University of Vermont and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC), is offering a **\$5000** loan repayment program to incentivize and retain new graduates from Vermont colleges and universities. Any graduate during the spring 2023 academic year with a Bachelor's degree can apply. Recipients will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis based on regional, employer, and institutional distribution criteria, as long as funding is available. Applicants must submit proof of employment when applying. Employment will be verified with the Vermont-based employer at two points: after one year of employment and after the second year of employment. Learn more here.

Legislative Affairs



Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI)

GBIC, along with the RDCs of Vermont, Lake Champlain and Vermont Chambers of Commerce, and Governor Scott's administration, has made a considerable effort to encourage the state legislature to reauthorize the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI) program. The VEGI program offers incentives to businesses that create new high-paying, benefits-providing jobs for Vermonters. Since its inception in 2007, the program has disbursed \$33.8 million to spur over \$1 billion in capital investments, \$514 million in payroll, and almost 9,000 jobs.

Frank Cioffi, President of GBIC, has testified in committee in support of VEGI, as have businesses across Chittenden County and the state. Frank also <u>co-wrote and published an <u>op-ed</u> on VEGI with Cathy Davis, President of the Lake Champlain Chamber. Furthermore, members of GBIC's board of directors have contacted their legislators to ask for their support of this important program.</u>



Housing

GBIC has joined the RDCs of Vermont, Vermont League of Cities and Towns, Vermont Housing Finance Agency, Lake Champlain and Vermont Chambers of Commerce, and

numerous other allies in Governor Scott's call for substantive legislation to address Vermont's housing crisis. Affordable, safe housing is integral to Vermonters' ability to live happily and healthily. Alex Demoly, GBIC's Economic Development Specialist, represented the RDCs of Vermont at Governor Scott's <u>press conference</u> on housing.

Business Visits

As always, GBIC is conducting visits with businesses in our area! If you would like to schedule a meeting, we can discuss incentives, workforce training opportunities, and other economic development tools that may help your business. We would also appreciate the chance to listen to your thoughts on Vermont's business climate and ways in which it may be improved. Please reach out to our team if you would like to have a conversation.

About GBIC:

As the certified non-profit economic development corporation serving Chittenden County, GBIC is dedicated to implementing our vision of a thriving Lake Champlain region. This includes an economic environment providing meaningful employment consistent with an uncompromised natural environment, enabling present and future generations of Vermonters to live, learn, work, and play in the Champlain Valley.

GBIC strives to attract, retain, and expand environmentally sensitive high-paying jobs in the Champlain Valley, and to initiate and support advocacy, education, and collaborative programs in promoting our Vision.

Visit gbicvt.org

GBIC Staff:



Frank Cioffi
President



Sam Andersen
Executive Vice President



Curt Carter
Senior Vice President



Alex Demoly

Economic Development Specialist

Partners:

- Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- Department of Economic Development
- <u>Vermont COVID Information</u>
- Vermont Labor Market Information
- Vermont Economic Development Authority
- Vermont Employment Growth Incentive
- Vermont Training Program
- Vermont Community Development Program
- Vermont Center for Emerging Technology
- Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center
- Procurement Technical Assistance Center
- Efficiency Vermont
- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

GBIC 60 Main Street, Burlington, VT. 05401 (802) 862-5726 gbicvt.org

GBIC's work is made possible in part by a grant from the State of Vermont through the Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.